

OPTICAL FIBER DEPOSITION TUBE FUSED IN DEUTERIUM ATMOSPHERE FOR ATTENUATION IMPROVEMENT

Abstract of Disclosure

A silica deposition tube is fused in a deuterium (D_2) gas atmosphere and optionally baked in a deuterium (D_2) gas atmosphere to substantially reduce the hydrogen content in the tube for decreased fiber attenuation. Alternatively, raw silica material is pre-treated in D_2 gas followed by fusing of the raw silica tube in a D_2 gas environment.